

The Hawes House
506 East Leigh Street, Richmond, Virginia
HENRICO Co.

HABS No. VA-115

HABS

VA

44 Rich

17-

PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
District of Virginia

HISTORICAL AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
Eugene Bradbury, District Officer
210 East Franklin Street, Richmond, Virginia

HABS
VA
44 RICH
17-

THE HAWES HOUSE
506 East Leigh Street, Richmond, Virginia

Owner: Salvation Army of Georgia

Date of Erection: About 1809

Architect:

Builder: James C. Anthony

Present Condition: While wings have been added to each side, no extensive alterations have been made to the main building, which is in good condition.

Number of Stories: Two stories and basement

Materials of Construction: Walls are of brick. Front wall from line of grade upward is laid in Flemish bond, while other walls are of common bond. The present roof is of tin. The present front porch and the two story rear porch are evidently not the original ones. The interior woodwork is of contemporary design. While all original mantels are in place, the fireplaces have been bricked up. First floor halls and Rooms B and C have plain wood wainscot. Room A has panelled wood wainscot. Halls and rooms in second floor have chair rail. Plaster cornices in first floor halls and rooms, except stair hall, flooring original pine boards, random width. First floor halls have plain wood wainscot.

Other Existing Records: This house was at one time the home of Mary Virginia Hawes Terhune, who wrote under the pen-name of Marion Harland. The following is a description taken from Marion Harland's Autobiography:

"In the summer of 1851 my grandmother had bought and given to her only child the house which was to be our home as long as we remained a resident family in Richmond . . . It stands upon Leigh Street."

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"It was a big, square Colonial house, with much waste of space in the matter of halls and passages. The entrance-hall on the first floor was virtually a reception-room, and nearly as large as any apartment on that level. It was cut across the left side by an archway, filled with Venetian blinds and door. Beyond these was a broad, easy stairway, dropping by a succession of landings, to the lower from the upper story. Directly opposite the front door was a second and narrower arch, the door in which was, likewise, of Venetian slats. This led to the rooms at the back of the house. The plan of the second floor was the same."

Marguerite DuPont Lee's Virginia Ghosts speaks of the Hawes House as famous for its ghost styled The Little Gray Lady.

Additional Data:

Bibliography:

Property Books, City of Richmond, Virginia

Deed Books, filed in the Chancery Court,
Richmond, Virginia

Lawyers' Title Insurance Corporation,
Richmond, Virginia

Personal Notes of Edward V. Valentine

Virginia Thompson
Supervising Historian

Approved: June 1, 1936

Eugene Bradbury
MAJOR EUGENE BRADBURY, A. I. A.
District Officer

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